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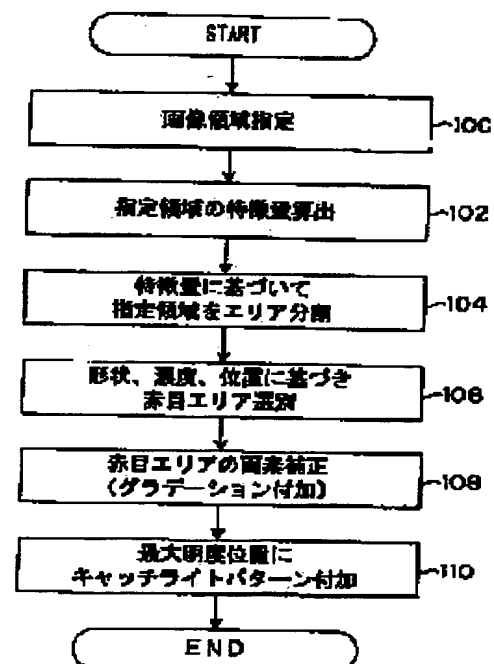
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(54) IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD

(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To make selectable only the necessary areas as the correcting object areas by segmenting en bloc color defective areas such as pink-eye areas including a catch light part and correcting these segmented areas.

SOLUTION: The image of a pink eye including is peripheral area is designated as a processing object area among those images displayed on a monitor (S100). The feature value of the processing object area that is designated by one of six designation modes is calculated (S102). The designated image is divided for every area where the feature value forms a mountain (S104). The shape, layout relation (position) among those divided image areas, area ratio, density and mean color tone are checked in each divided area, and the area having the most outstanding feature of a pupil part is selected as a pink-eye area (S106). All pixels of the pink-eye area are corrected like the lightness of the pixel having the lowest lightness based on this pixel (S108). A high luminance area, i.e., a highlight area is formed in the corrected pink-eye area as a catch light (S110).



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CLAIMS

[Claim(s)]

[Claim 1] The picture field including the eye field which became poor [a color tone] specified beforehand is made into xy flat surface. Picture characteristic quantity is calculated for every pixel with any one or two combination or more in a hue, saturation, and lightness. Set up the 3-dimensional xyz space which arranges this characteristic quantity to the z-axis, and field division of the xy flat surface is carried out for every field in which the value of the z-axis has a mountain-like distribution configuration to the breadth of xy flat surface. With any one or two combination or more in the configuration information on xy flat surface of each division field, positional information, area information, and statistical picture characteristic quantity The image-processing method which corrects the field which distinguished the color tone poor field of a pupil and was distinguished from the color tone poor field so that it may become the picture of a normal eye visually.

[Claim 2] the time of carrying out field division of the xy flat surface for every field with the distribution configuration of the shape of an aforementioned mountain — the account of before — for every pixel in the picture field specified beforehand in the reference field for a N line xM train (1 or more [However, N and M]) pixel centering on the view pixel of a number allotment processing object When the value of the aforementioned characteristic quantity of a view pixel is the maximum, a new number is assigned for this view pixel as a crest point. When the pixel which the value of the aforementioned characteristic quantity of a view pixel is not the maximum, and has the value of the maximum characteristic quantity other than the view pixel in the aforementioned reference field assigns and it has a number It repeats until one of crest point numbers is given about all the pixels in the picture field specified beforehand. the number allotment processing which gives this allotment number to a view pixel — the account of before — The image-processing method according to claim 1 of performing picture field division by making a set of a pixel with the same number into one field.

[Claim 3] The pixel of a law is made into a view pixel. the time of carrying out field division of the xy flat surface for every field with the distribution configuration of the shape of an aforementioned mountain — the account of before — in each pixel in the picture field specified beforehand, a number is undecided — When the pixel which has the value of the aforementioned larger characteristic quantity than a view pixel is in the reference field for a N line xM train (1 or more [However, N and M]) pixel centering on this view pixel, Memorize the position of a view pixel and the processing whose value of the aforementioned characteristic quantity makes a large pixel the point paying [new] its attention is repeated. If the number of the aforementioned point paying [new] its attention is undecided when the value of the characteristic quantity of the aforementioned point paying [new] its attention is the maximum in a reference field, a new number will be assigned for this point paying [new] its attention as a crest point. The number allotment processing which will give the number to all the pixels of the coordinate which carried out [aforementioned] storage if the number is already assigned to the aforementioned point paying [new] its attention the account of before — the image-processing method according to claim 1 or 2 of performing picture field division by making a s t of a pixel with the same number into one field repeatedly until one of crest point numbers is given about all the pixels in the

picture field specified beforehand

[Claim 4] The 1st mark as configuration information which serves as size in distinction of the color tone poor field of the aforementioned pupil using circularity characteristic quantity for every division field, so that it is more nearly circularly near, The 2nd mark as positional information which serves as size, so that the center of gravity of a division field is close to the center position of the appointed field, The 3rd mark as area information which serves as smallness, so that the ratio of the area of a division field and the area of the appointed field separates from the predetermined range, The average or more in any one of a hue, saturation, and lightness, maximum, Any one or more of the minimum value, contrast, and histogram configurations are used. The 4th mark as statistical picture characteristic quantity which shows a color tone poor degree from comparison with statistical color tone poor field information, And it asks according to the center position of a pupil specified beforehand, and the interval of both eyes. The image-processing method given in any 1 term of a claim 1 to the claim 3 which calculates at least one of five mark of 5th mark ** as positional information used as smallness, so that it separates from the center of a pupil, and judges what has the highest mark to be a color tone poor field.

[Claim 5] The image-processing method according to claim 4 of judging the field of a high order L (however, L one or more integers) individual by any two or more aforementioned averages of mark or weighted average mark to be a color tone poor field.

[Claim 6] The picture field including the eye field which became poor [a color tone] specified beforehand is made into xy flat surface. Picture characteristic quantity is calculated for every pixel with any one or two combination or more in a hue, saturation, and lightness. Set up the 3-dimensional xyz space which arranges this characteristic quantity to the z-axis, and field division of the xy flat surface is carried out for every field in which the value of the z-axis has a mountain-like distribution configuration to the breadth of xy flat surface. With any one or two combination or more in the configuration information on xy flat surface of each division field, positional information, area information, and statistical picture characteristic quantity The correction including the processing to which gradation is applied so that it may apply to a cent r section from the periphery of the color tone poor field of the pupil which distinguished the color tone poor field of a pupil and was distinguished from the color tone poor field and both lightness, and both [any one or] may fall gradually is made. The image-processing method which corrects the color tone poor field of the aforementioned pupil so that it may become the picture of a normal eye visually.

[Claim 7] the time of carrying out field division of the xy flat surface for every field with the distribution configuration of the shape of an aforementioned mountain -- the account of before -- for every pixel in the picture field specified beforehand in the reference field for a N line xM train (1 or more [However, N and M]) pixel centering on the view pixel of a number allotment processing object When the value of the aforementioned characteristic quantity of a view pixel is the maximum, a new number is assigned for this view pixel as a crest point. When the pixel which the value of the aforementioned characteristic quantity of a view pixel is not the maximum, and has the value of the maximum characteristic quantity other than the view pixel in the aforementioned reference field assigns and it has a number It repeats until one of crest point numbers is given about all the pixels in the picture field specified beforehand. the number allotment processing which gives this allotment number to a view pixel -- the account of before -- The image-processing method according to claim 6 of performing picture field division by making a set of a pixel with the same number into one field.

[Claim 8] The pixel of a law is made into a view pixel. the time of carrying out field division of the xy flat surface for every field with the distribution configuration of the shape of an aforementioned mountain -- the account of before -- in each pixel in the picture field specified beforehand, a number is undecided -- When the pixel which has the value of the aforementioned d larger characteristic quantity than a view pixel is in the reference field for a N line xM train (1 or more [However, N and M]) pixel centering on this view pixel, Memorize the position of a view pixel and the processing whose value of the aforementioned characteristic quantity makes a large pixel the point paying [new] its attention is repeated. If the number of the aforementioned

point paying [new] its attention is undecided when the value of the characteristic quantity of the aforementioned point paying [new] its attention is the maximum in a reference field, a new number will be assigned for this point paying [new] its attention as a crest point. The number allotment processing which will give the number to all the pixels of the coordinate which carried out [aforementioned] storage if the number is already assigned to the aforementioned point paying [new] its attention the account of before -- the image-processing method according to claim 6 or 7 of performing picture field division by making a set of a pixel with the same number into one field repeatedly until one of crest point numbers is given about all the pixels in the picture field specified beforehand

[Claim 9] The 1st mark as configuration information which serves as size in distinction of the color tone poor field of the aforementioned pupil using circularity characteristic quantity for every division field, so that it is more nearly circularly near, The 2nd mark as positional information which serves as size, so that the center of gravity of a division field is close to the center position of the appointed field, The 3rd mark as area information which serves as smallness, so that the ratio of the area of a division field and the area of the appointed field separates from the predetermined range, The average or more in any one of a hue, saturation, and lightness, maximum, Any one or more of the minimum value, contrast, and histogram configurations are used. The 4th mark as statistical picture characteristic quantity which shows a color tone poor degree from comparison with statistical color tone poor field information, And it asks according to the center position of a pupil specified beforehand, and the interval of both eyes. The image-processing method given in any 1 term of a claim 6 to the claim 8 which calculates at least one of five mark of 5th mark ** as positional information used as smallness, so that it separates from the center of a pupil, and judges what has the highest mark to be a color tone poor field.

[Claim 10] The image-processing method according to claim 9 of judging the field of a high order L (however, L one or more integers) individual by any two or more aforementioned averages of mark or weighted average mark to be a color tone poor field.

[Claim 11] The picture field including the eye field which became poor [a color tone] specified beforehand is made into xy flat surface. Picture characteristic quantity is calculated for every pixel with any one or two combination or more in a hue, saturation, and lightness. Set up the 3-dimensional xyz space which arranges this characteristic quantity to the z-axis, and field division of the xy flat surface is carried out for every field in which the value of the z-axis has a mountain-like distribution configuration to the breadth of xy flat surface. With any one or two combination or more in the configuration information on xy flat surface of each division field, positional information, area information, and statistical picture characteristic quantity The maximum lightness position of the color tone poor field of the pupil which distinguished the color tone poor field of a pupil and was distinguished from the color tone poor field is distinguished from a catch light position. The image-processing method which makes the correction including the processing which forms a catch light pattern in this catch light position, and corrects the color tone poor field of the aforementioned pupil so that it may become the picture of a normal eye visually.

[Claim 12] the time of carrying out field division of the xy flat surface for every field with the distribution configuration of the shape of an aforementioned mountain -- the account of before -- for every pixel in the picture field specified beforehand in the reference field for a N line xM train (1 or more [However, N and M]) pixel centering on the view pixel of a number allotment processing object When the value of the aforementioned characteristic quantity of a view pixel is the maximum, a new number is assigned for this view pixel as a crest point. When the pixel which the value of the aforementioned characteristic quantity of a view pixel is not the maximum, and has the value of the maximum characteristic quantity other than the view pixel in the aforementioned reference field assigns and it has a number It repeats until one of crest point numbers is given about all the pixels in the picture field specified beforehand. the number allotment processing which gives this allotment number to a view pixel -- the account of before -- The image-processing method according to claim 11 of performing picture field division by making a set of a pixel with the same number into one field.

[Claim 13] The pixel of a law is made into a view pixel. the time of carrying out field division of the xy flat surface for every field with the distribution configuration of the shape of an aforementioned mountain -- the account of before -- in each pixel in the picture field specified beforehand, a number is undecided -- When the pixel which has the value of the aforementioned larger characteristic quantity than a view pixel is in the reference field for a N line xM train (1 or more [However, N and M]) pixel centering on this view pixel, Memorize the position of a view pixel and the processing whose value of the aforementioned characteristic quantity makes a large pixel the point paying [new] its attention is repeated. If the number of the aforementioned point paying [new] its attention is undecided when the value of the characteristic quantity of the aforementioned point paying [new] its attention is the maximum in a reference field, a new number will be assigned for this point paying [new] its attention as a crest point. The number allotment processing which will give the number to all the pixels of the coordinate which carried out [aforementioned] storage if the number is already assigned to the aforementioned point paying [new] its attention the account of before -- the image-processing method according to claim 11 or 12 of performing picture field division by making a set of a pixel with the same number into one field repeatedly until one of crest point numbers is given about all the pixels in the picture field specified beforehand

[Claim 14] The 1st mark as configuration information which serves as size in distinction of the color tone poor field of the aforementioned pupil using circularity characteristic quantity for every division field, so that it is more nearly circularly near, The 2nd mark as positional information which serves as size, so that the center of gravity of a division field is close to the center position of the appointed field, The 3rd mark as area information which serves as smallness, so that the ratio of the area of a division field and the area of the appointed field separates from the predetermined range, The average or more in any one of a hue, saturation, and lightness, maximum, Any one or more of the minimum value, contrast, and histogram configurations are used. The 4th mark as statistical picture characteristic quantity which shows a color tone poor degree from comparison with statistical color tone poor field information, And it asks according to the center position of a pupil specified beforehand, and the interval of both eyes. The image-processing method given in any 1 term of a claim 11 to the claim 13 which calculates at least one of five mark of 5th mark ** as positional information used as smallness, so that it separates from the center of a pupil, and judges what has the highest mark to be a color tone poor field.

[Claim 15] The image-processing method according to claim 14 of judging the field of a high order L (however, L one or more integers) individual by any two or more aforementioned averages of mark or weighted average mark to be a color tone poor field.

[Claim 16] The picture field including the eye field which became poor [a color tone] specified beforehand is made into xy flat surface. Picture characteristic quantity is calculated for every pixel with any one or two combination or more in a hue, saturation, and lightness. Set up the 3-dimensional xyz space which arranges this characteristic quantity to the z-axis, and field division of the xy flat surface is carried out for every field in which the value of the z-axis has a mountain-like distribution configuration to the breadth of xy flat surface. With any one or two combination or more in the configuration information on xy flat surface of each division field, positional information, area information, and statistical picture characteristic quantity The pupil of color tone normalcy started from the normal pupil field so that the size of the pupil field which distinguished the color tone poor field of a pupil and was distinguished from the color tone poor field might be suited After enlarging or contracting, The image-processing method which makes the correction including the processing stuck on the pupil field distinguished from the aforementioned color tone poor field, and corrects the color tone poor field of the aforementioned pupil so that it may become the picture of a normal eye visually.

[Claim 17] the time of carrying out field division of the xy flat surface for every field with the distribution configuration of the shape of an aforementioned mountain -- the account of before -- for every pixel in the picture field specified beforehand in the reference field for a N line xM train (1 or more [However, N and M]) pixel centering on the view pixel of a number allotment processing object When the value of the aforementioned characteristic quantity of a view pixel is

the maximum, a new number is assigned for this view pixel as a crest point. When the pixel which the value of the aforementioned characteristic quantity of a view pixel is not the maximum, and has the value of the maximum characteristic quantity other than the view pixel in the aforementioned reference field assigns and it has a number It repeats until one of crest point numbers is given about all the pixels in the picture field specified beforehand. the number allotment processing which gives this allotment number to a view pixel -- the account of before -- The image-processing method according to claim 16 of performing picture field division by making a set of a pixel with the same number into one field.

[Claim 18] The pixel of a law is made into a view pixel. the time of carrying out field division of the xy flat surface for every field with the distribution configuration of the shape of an aforementioned mountain -- the account of before -- in each pixel in the picture field specified beforehand, a number is undecided -- When the pixel which has the value of the aforementioned larger characteristic quantity than a view pixel is in the reference field for a N line xM train (1 or more [However, N and M]) pixel centering on this view pixel, Memorize the position of a view pixel and the processing whose value of the aforementioned characteristic quantity makes a large pixel the point paying [new] its attention is repeated. If the number of the aforementioned point paying [new] its attention is undecided when the value of the characteristic quantity of the aforementioned point paying [new] its attention is the maximum in a reference field, a new number will be assigned for this point paying [new] its attention as a crest point. The number allotment processing which will give the number to all the pixels of the coordinate which carried out [aforementioned] storage if the number is already assigned to the aforementioned point paying [new] its attention the account of before -- the image-processing method according to claim 16 or 17 of performing picture field division by making a set of a pixel with the same number into one field repeatedly until one of crest point numbers is given about all the pixels in the picture field specified beforehand

[Claim 19] The 1st mark as configuration information which serves as size in distinction of the color tone poor field of the aforementioned pupil using circularity characteristic quantity for every division field, so that it is more nearly circularly near, The 2nd mark as positional information which serves as size, so that the center of gravity of a division field is close to the center position of the appointed field, The 3rd mark as area information which serves as smallness, so that the ratio of the area of a division field and the area of the appointed field separates from the predetermined range, The average or more in any one of a hue, saturation, and lightness, maximum, Any one or more of the minimum value, contrast, and histogram configurations are used. The 4th mark as statistical picture characteristic quantity which shows a color tone poor degree from comparison with statistical color tone poor field information, And it asks according to the center position of a pupil specified beforehand, and the interval of both eyes. The image-processing method given in any 1 term of a claim 16 to the claim 18 which calculates at least one of five mark of 5th mark ** as positional information used as smallness, so that it separates from the center of a pupil, and judges what has the highest mark to be a color tone poor field.

[Claim 20] The image-processing method according to claim 19 of judging the field of a high order L (however, L one or more integers) individual by any two or more aforementioned averages of mark or weighted average mark to be a color tone poor field.

[Claim 21] The image-processing method given in any 1 term of a claim 1 to the claim 20 modified so that the atmosphere of the picture of both eyes may gather, when both eyes correct a poor color tone so that the picture of the eye containing the corrected pupil portion and the picture of the unnecessary eye of correction may serve as the same atmosphere or.

[Claim 22] The image-processing method given in any 1 term of a claim 1 to the claim 21 which changes the kind of characteristic quantity which changes the characteristic quantity used for the field division technique of a picture, or field division according to the number of times of specification of the appointed field including the eye field where the aforementioned color tone is poor, or is used for a color tone poor field judging, the calculation method of characteristic quantity, or a criterion, or changes the correction method of a color tone poor field.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[Detailed Description of the Invention]

[0001]

[The technical field to which invention belongs] Especially this invention relates to the image-processing method which detects and corrects the poor color tone of the pupil of the photographic subject in a digital image about the image-processing method.

[0002]

[Description of the Prior Art] There is a case where it is conventionally reflected as a picture of the color in which a photographic subject differs from practice according to the reflective state of the light under photography, plentifully, these bloodshot eyes are too unnatural, and since appearance is bad, correcting so that it may look automatically by the image processing is made.

[0003] For example, if a person is photoed from a transverse plane by the stroboscope, the so-called bloodshot-eyes phenomenon in which a pupil is reflected crimson or golden may arise. When the light of a stroboscope carries out incidence from a transverse plane to the eye in the state where the pupil opened in a dark place, this bloodshot-eyes phenomenon is a phenomenon which happens in order to reflect the light of a stroboscope regularly and to reflect this state to a picture, and has the bloodshot eyes to which a pupil is reflected red, and the monetary value to which a pupil is reflected golden (bloodshot eyes are henceforth called including both.).

[0004] Since such bloodshot eyes have bad projection glory, the various image-processing methods for correcting these bloodshot eyes conventionally are proposed. For example, in JP,7-72537,A, the block definition of the circumference of the eye used as the candidate for bloodshot-eyes correction is carried out, threshold processing in saturation, brightness, and a hue is performed in this field, and if the target pixel is in the threshold defined beforehand, the method of judging it as bloodshot eyes and correcting is mentioned. Moreover, in JP,9-261580,A, a pupil candidate field is chosen based on the sexual desire news and colour information in the field surrounded by the edge, and the method of making bloodshot-eyes correction is mentioned by correcting the color tone poor pixel in all the selected pupil candidate fields.

[0005]

[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention] However, by the conventional methods, such as JP,7-72537,A mentioned above and JP,9-261580,A, a bloodshot-eyes field is distinguished by threshold processing in saturation, brightness, and a hue, and it is correcting, and since the saturation of bloodshot eyes, brightness, and a hue are broad, it is not avoided that incorrect extraction and the leakage in extraction take place in many samples. Moreover, for example, a beige portion is also corrected black with bloodshot-eyes processing of a pupil, and there is also a possibility of becoming the picture which has sense of incongruity as a result.

[0006] Moreover, in the case where the edge of a picture is extracted like JP,9-261580,A, generally, since the edge of a picture is quite complicated, it also has superfluous division and a possibility that a field division mistake may occur.

[0007] That is, since it distinguishes whether they are bloodshot eyes only by the threshold of a color by the former method, without dividing for every field, and a field without the need for correction is easy to be detected with the required field of correction as a correction object domain and cannot divide a field correctly by the latter method, there is a problem that it is

difficult to correct only the pupil field which is a correction object domain.

[0008] Then, no matter this invention may be what picture, it sets it as the 1st purpose to offer the image-processing method which can choose only the field which divides a field correctly and has the need for correction as a correction object domain. Moreover, it sets it as the 2nd purpose to offer the image-processing method which can choose only a pupil field correctly. Furthermore, it sets it as the 3rd purpose to offer correctly the image-processing method which can correct for the pupil field which is a correction object domain. Moreover, it sets it as the 4th purpose to offer the image-processing method which can make a natural atmosphere to the corrected picture.

[0009]

[Means for Solving the Problem] In order to attain the 1st purpose of the above, the picture field including the eye field which became poor [a color tone] specified beforehand is made into xy flat surface. Picture characteristic quantity is calculated for every pixel with any one or two combination or more in a hue, saturation, and lightness. Set up the 3-dimensional xyz space which arranges this characteristic quantity to the z-axis, and field division of the xy flat surface is carried out for every field in which the value of the z-axis has a mountain-like distribution configuration to the breadth of xy flat surface. With any one or two combination or more in the configuration information on xy flat surface of each division field, positional information, area information, and statistical picture characteristic quantity, the color tone poor field of a pupil is distinguished, and a color tone poor field and the distinguished field are corrected so that it may become the picture of a normal eye visually.

[0010] That is, this invention is the method of starting collectively and correcting color tone poor fields, such as a bloodshot-eyes field including the catch light portion. As for a bloodshot-eyes portion, since the reflection from a retina is as strong as the center of the pupil section, lightness has the inclination to fall towards a periphery from a center. Therefore, it uses that lightness also including a catch light is distributed in the shape of a mountain. Moreover, with the Brown system pupil, the iris section uses the valley and bird clapper of lightness, and the iris section uses the valley and bird clapper with the pupil section which became bloodshot eyes about the size of the value of redness in a blue system pupil.

[0011] That is, it uses that a valley is made between the bloodshot-eyes section, its adjoining pewter, and the skin section using the characteristic quantity which combined lightness and redness, and the bloodshot-eyes section is separated with pewter and the skin section by carrying out field division for every mountain of the aforementioned characteristic quantity.

[0012] Moreover, in case invention of a claim 2 carries out field division of the xy flat surface for every field with the distribution configuration of the shape of an aforementioned mountain the account of before -- for every pixel in the picture field specified beforehand in the reference field for a N line xM train (1 or more [However, N and M]) pixel centering on the view pixel of a number allotment processing object When the value of the aforementioned characteristic quantity of a view pixel is the maximum, a new number is assigned for this view pixel as a crest point. When the pixel which the value of the aforementioned characteristic quantity of a view pixel is not the maximum, and has the value of the maximum characteristic quantity other than the view pixel in the aforementioned reference field assigns and it has a number the number allotment processing which gives this allotment number -- the account of before -- picture field division is performed by making a set of a pixel with the same number into one field repeatedly until one of crest point numbers is given about all the pixels in the picture field specified beforehand According to this method, since field division can be carried out to program processing etc., it troubles a user and is desirable.

[0013] Furthermore, in case invention according to claim 3 carries out field division of the xy flat surface for every field with the distribution configuration of the shape of an aforementioned mountain The pixel of a law is made into a view pixel. the account of before -- in each pixel in the picture field specified beforehand, a number is undecided -- When the pixel which has the value of the aforementioned larger characteristic quantity than the point paying [present] its attention is in the reference field for a N line xM train (1 or more [However, N and M]) pixel centering on this view pixel, The processing whose value of the aforementioned characteristic

quantity carry out the accumulation storage of the position of the point paying [present] one's attention, and makes a large pixel the point paying [new] its attention is repeated. If the number of the aforementioned point paying [new] its attention is undecided when the value of the characteristic quantity of the aforementioned point paying [new] its attention is the maximum in a reference field, a new number will be assigned for this point paying [new] its attention as a crest point. The number allotment processing which will give the number to all the pixels of the coordinate which carried out [aforementioned] accumulation if the number is already assigned to the aforementioned point paying [new] its attention the account of before — picture field division is performed by making a set of a pixel with the same number into one field repeatedly until one of crest point numbers is given about all the pixels in the picture field specified beforehand

[0014] Thus, about the pixel which cannot give a number, the position is memorized as a coordinate, for example, and if a number is given to the pixel which became a point paying [new] its attention at the last, processing which carries out field division for every mountain of the aforementioned characteristic quantity can be performed at high speed by processing so that the number of the pixel which finally became a point paying [new] its attention may be given to all the pixels of the memorized coordinate.

[0015] Invention of a claim 4 is set to distinction of the color tone poor field of the aforementioned pupil in the image-processing method according to claim 1. The 1st mark as configuration information which serves as size using circularity characteristic quantity for every division field, so that it is more nearly circularly near, The 2nd mark as positional information which serves as size, so that the center of gravity of a division field is close to the center position of the appointed field, The 3rd mark as area information which serves as smallness, so that the ratio of the area of a division field and the area of the appointed field separates from the predetermined range, The average or more in any one of a hue, saturation, and lightness, maximum, Any one or more of the minimum value, contrast, and histogram configurations are used. The 4th mark as statistical picture characteristic quantity which shows a color tone poor degree from comparison with statistical color tone poor field information, And it asks according to the center position of a pupil specified beforehand, and the interval of both eyes, at least one of five mark of the 5th mark as positional information used as smallness is calculated, so that it separates from the center of a pupil, and what has the highest mark is judged to be a color tone poor field.

[0016] Namely, invention according to claim 4 is the method of judging color tone poor fields, such as a division field according to claim 1 to a bloodshot-eyes field. It converts into the 1st which has an inclination used as low mark — the 5th mark, and a color tone poor field is distinguished using at least one of these [1st] — the 5th mark as the portion respectively near a pupil keeps away the statistical characteristic quantity about the configuration of a division field, area, a position, and concentration from high mark and a pupil.

[0017] In addition, if the diameter of a pupil is computed based on the center of a pupil specified beforehand, and the interval of both eyes from there being a relation of becoming the diameter of a pupil if the multiplication of the predetermined coefficient (generally 0.07–0.11) is carried out to the interval of both eyes, the inside of the circle-like field which has this diameter has the highest mark and the 5th mark separate from a center, they have the inclination for mark to become low.

[0018] Preferably, as indicated to the claim 5, it is good to judge the field of a high order L (however, L one or more integers) individual by the number of the average mark or weighted average mark or more in any two of the five aforementioned mark to be a color tone poor field. Since the inclination of each field is differentiated more and becomes clear by taking a weighted average, a color tone poor field can be distinguished with a sufficient precision.

[0019] In order to attain the above 3rd and the 4th purpose, moreover, invention of a claim 6 The picture field including the eye field which became poor [a color tone] specified beforehand is made into xy flat surface. Picture characteristic quantity is calculated for every pixel with any one or two combination or more in a hue, saturation, and lightness. Set up the 3-dimensional xyz space which arranges this characteristic quantity to the z-axis, and field division of the xy flat

surface is carried out for every field in which the value of the z-axis has a mountain-like distribution configuration to the breadth of xy flat surface. With any one or two combination or more in, the configuration information on xy flat surface of each division field, positional information, area information, and statistical picture characteristic quantity The correction including the processing to which gradation is applied so that it may apply to a center section from the periphery of the color tone poor field of the pupil which distinguished the color tone poor field of a pupil and was distinguished from the color tone poor field and both lightness, and both [any one or] may fall gradually is made. The color tone poor field of the aforementioned pupil is corrected so that it may become the picture of a normal eye visually.

[0020] Namely, in invention of a claim 6, since the aforementioned color tone poor field is distinguished by the same method as the above-mentioned claim 1, it can separate into pewter and the skin section, and accuracy, and color tone poor fields, such as bloodshot eyes, can be corrected with a sufficient precision.

[0021] In order to attain the 4th purpose of the above by invention of a claim 6 in addition to it, processing to which gradation is applied is performed so that it may apply to a center section from a periphery and both lightness, and both [any one or] may fall gradually in the case of correction of the color tone poor field of a pupil. Since the direction of the color for a center section serves as a color of the actual pupil portion used as the color deeper than a part for a periphery from this closely, the pupil picture after correction can be made into a natural atmosphere. In addition, since a claim 9 has the same operation as the above-mentioned claim 2 to the claim 5 from a claim 7, explanation is omitted.

[0022] Moreover, invention of a claim 10 makes the picture field including the eye field which became poor [a color tone] specified beforehand xy flat surface. Picture characteristic quantity is calculated for every pixel with any one or two combination or more in a hue, saturation, and lightness. Set up the 3-dimensional xyz space which arranges this characteristic quantity to the z-axis, and field division of the xy flat surface is carried out for every field in which the value of the z-axis has a mountain-like distribution configuration to the breadth of xy flat surface. With any one or two combination or more in the configuration information on xy flat surface of each division field, positional information, area information, and statistical picture characteristic quantity The maximum lightness position of the color tone poor field of the pupil which distinguished the color tone poor field of a pupil and was distinguished from the color tone poor field is distinguished from a catch light position. The correction including the processing which forms a catch light pattern in this catch light position is made, and the color tone poor field of the aforementioned pupil is corrected so that it may become the picture of a normal eye visually.

[0023] Namely, in invention of a claim 10, since the aforementioned color tone poor field is distinguished by the same method as the above-mentioned claim 1 like the above-mentioned claim 6, it can separate into pewter and the skin section, and accuracy, and color tone poor fields, such as bloodshot eyes, can be corrected with a sufficient precision.

[0024] In addition to it, by invention of a claim 10, the maximum lightness position in the field of a pupil portion is distinguished from a catch light position, and the catch light pattern is formed. Namely, since it is the field where concentration is thin partially in a pupil portion with deep concentration, as for a catch light, it turns out that a catch light position is brightest position. Therefore, the picture of the eye of the impression which was natural and was lively is acquired by performing processing which prepares a catch light in the maximum lightness position in the field of a pupil portion. In addition, since a claim 15 has the same operation as the above-mentioned claim 2 to the claim 5 from a claim 11, explanation is omitted.

[0025] Invention of a claim 16 makes the picture field including the eye field which became poor [a color tone] specified beforehand xy flat surface. Picture characteristic quantity is calculated for every pixel with any one or two combination or more in a hue, saturation, and lightness. Set up the 3-dimensional xyz space which arranges this characteristic quantity to the z-axis, and field division of the xy flat surface is carried out for every field in which the value of the z-axis has a mountain-like distribution configuration to the breadth of xy flat surface. With any one or two combination or more in the configuration information on xy flat surface of each division field,

positional information, area information, and statistical picture characteristic quantity The pupil of color tone normalcy started from the normal pupil field so that the size of the pupil field which distinguished the color tone poor field of a pupil and was distinguished from the color tone poor field might be suited After enlarging or contracting, The correction including the processing stuck on the pupil field distinguished from the aforementioned color tone poor field is made, and the color tone poor field of the aforementioned pupil is corrected so that it may become the picture of a normal eye visually.

[0026] That is, by comparatively easy correction processing, since enlarging or contracting of the pupil of color tone normalcy started from the normal pupil field is carried out to the pupil field distinguished from the color tone poor field and invention of a claim 16 sticks it on it, it can correct the color tone poor field of a pupil so that it may become the picture of a normal eye visually. In addition, since a claim 20 has the same operation as the above-mentioned claim 2 to the claim 5 from a claim 17, explanation is omitted.

[0027] In order to attain the 4th purpose of the above, furthermore, invention of a claim 21 In the image-processing method given in any 1 term of a claim 1 to the claim 21 According to the number of times of specification of the appointed field including the eye field where the aforementioned color tone is poor, the characteristic quantity used for the field division technique of a picture or field division is changed. Or the kind of characteristic quantity used for a color tone poor field judging, the calculation method of characteristic quantity, or a criterion is changed, or the correction method of a color tone poor field is changed.

[0028] Since it can shift or fine correction of making the color of the corrected eye into the same atmosphere as the color of another [without the need for correction] eye can make, it is possible to make a natural atmosphere so that the position of the picture of the eye which compared and corrected the position of another [without the need for correction] eye and the position of the picture of the corrected eye by this may be arranged in a natural position. Moreover, position amendment of a catch light is also performed so that the physical relationship in the pupil of a catch light may gather by both eyes.

[0029] When invention of a claim 22 performs bloodshot-eyes correction processing two or more times, are invention, and it sets to the image-processing method given in any 1 term of a claim 1 to the claim 21. According to the number of times of specification of the appointed field including the eye field where the aforementioned color tone is poor, the characteristic quantity used for the field division technique of a picture or field division is changed. Or the kind of characteristic quantity used for a color tone poor field judging, the calculation method of characteristic quantity, or a criterion is changed, or the correction method of a color tone poor field is changed.

[0030] For example, when a bloodshot-eyes field criterion is field division the whole mountain of the above-mentioned characteristic quantity, the bloodshot-eyes field criterion which is a two-times eye is changed into the field division by the degree of similar of a tint instead of field division the whole mountain of the above-mentioned characteristic quantity, or excepting the area criteria which excepted or used the circularity criteria used by the first judgment in the judgment by the first judgment etc. is mentioned.

[0031]

[The operation form of invention] The outline composition of the digital language laboratory system 10 concerning this operation form is shown in drawing 1 and drawing 2.

[0032] As shown in drawing 1, this digital language laboratory system 10 is constituted including the line CCD scanner 14, the image-processing section 16, the LASER beam printer section 18, and the processor section 20, the line CCD scanner 14 and the image-processing section 16 are unified as the input section 26 shown in drawing 2, and the LASER beam printer section 18 and the processor section 20 are unified as the output section 28 shown in drawing 2.

[0033] The line CCD scanner 14 is for reading the coma picture currently recorded on photographic films, such as a negative film and a reversal film, for example, can set the coma picture of the photographic film of the photographic film of 135 sizes, the photographic film of 110 sizes and the photographic film (photographic film : the so-called APS film of 240 sizes) in which the transparent magnetic layer was formed, 120 sizes, and 220 sizes (brownie size) as the

reading object. After the line CCD scanner 14 reads the coma picture for [above] reading with a line CCD 30 and it carries out A/D conversion in the A/D-conversion section 32, it outputs image data to the image-processing section 16.

[0034] In addition, the form of this operation explains as digital language laboratory system 10 at the time of applying the photographic film (APS film) 68 of 240 sizes.

[0035] While the image data (scanning image data) outputted from the line CCD scanner 14 is inputted, the image-processing section 16 The image data obtained by photography in digital camera 34 grade, the image data obtained by reading manuscripts (for example, reflection copy etc.) with a scanner 36 (flat bed type), The image data which was generated by other computers and recorded on the floppy disk drive 38, MO drive, or the CD drive 40, And it is constituted so that it may also be possible to input from the outside the communication image data which receives through a modem 42 (for these to be hereafter named file image data generically).

[0036] The image-processing section 16 memorizes the inputted image data to an image memory 44, performs image processings, such as various kinds of amendments of the color gradation processing section 46, the hyper-tone processing section 48, and hyper-sharpness processing section 50 grade, and outputs them to the LASER beam printer section 18 as image data for record. Moreover, the thing (for example, output to storages, such as FD, MO, and CD, or it transmits to other information management systems through a communication line) of the image-processing section 16 outputted to the exterior by making into an image file the image data which performed the image processing is also made possible.

[0037] The LASER beam printer section 18 is equipped with the laser light source 52 of R, G, and B, controls the laser driver 54, irradiates the laser beam modulated according to the image data for record (an image memory 56 once memorizes) inputted from the image-processing section 16 at printing paper, and records a picture on printing paper 62 by scanning exposure (optical system which mainly used the polygon mirror 58 and the ftheta lens 60 with the gestalt of this operation). Moreover, the processor section 20 performs each processing of the color development, bleaching fixing, rinsing, and dryness to the printing paper 62 in which the picture was recorded by scanning exposure in the LASER beam printer section 18. Thereby, a picture is formed on printing paper.

[0038] (Composition of a line CCD scanner) The composition of the line CCD scanner 14 is explained below. The outline composition of the optical system of the line CCD scanner 14 is shown in drawing 1 . This optical system equips the photographic film 68 with the light source 66 which irradiates light, and the optical diffusion board 72 which makes the diffused light light which irradiates a photographic film 68 is arranged at the irradiation appearance side of the light source 66.

[0039] A photographic film 68 is conveyed by the tape carrier package 74 arranged at the side in which the optical diffusion board 72 was arranged so that the screen of a coma picture may become an optical axis and a perpendicular.

[0040] On both sides of the photographic film 68, the lens unit 76 and Line CCD 30 to which image formation of the light which penetrated the coma picture is carried out are arranged in order along with the optical axis at the light source 66 and the opposite side. In addition, although only the lens single as a lens unit 76 is shown, the lens unit 76 is the zoom lens which consisted of two or more lenses in fact. In addition, you may use a selfoc lens as a lens unit 76. In this case, it is desirable to make the ends side of a selfoc lens approach a photographic film 68 and a line CCD 30 as much as possible, respectively.

[0041] The sensing section in which it has been arranged at the single tier along the cross direction of two or more photographic films 68 by which CCD cell conveyance is carried out, and the electronic shutter style was prepared vacates an interval, and is prepared three lines in parallel mutually, it is respectively attached in the optical incidence side of each sensing section any of the color separation filter of R, G, and B they are, and the line CCD 30 is constituted (the so-called three-line color CCD). The line CCD 30 is arranged so that the light-receiving side of each sensing section may be in agreement with the image formation point position of the lens unit 76.

[0042] Moreover, although illustration is omitted, the shutter is formed between the line CCD 30

and the lens unit 76.

(Composition of the control system of the image-processing section 16) The detailed control-block view for performing each processing of the image memory 44 which is the main composition of the image-processing section 16 shown in drawing 1 , the color gradation processing 46, the hyper-tone processing 48, and the hyper-sharpness processing 50 is shown in drawing 3 .

[0043] In the data-processing section 200, each digital signal of RGB outputted from the line CCD scanner 14 is changed into digital image data (concentration data) by the log converter 202, after predetermined data processing, such as amendment, defective pixel amendment, and a shading compensation, is performed at the time of dark, press can data are memorized by the press can memory 204, and fine scan data are memorized by the fine scan memory 206.

[0044] The press can data memorized by the press can memory 204 are sent out to the press can processing section 212 which consisted of the image-data-processing section 208 and an image data transducer 210. On the other hand, the fine scan data memorized by the fine scan memory 206 are sent out to the fine scanning-and-processing section 218 which consisted of the image-data-processing section 214 and an image data transducer 216.

[0045] In these press can processing sections 212 and the fine scanning-and-processing section 218, when a picture is photoed, amendment based on the stroboscope luminous-intensity-distribution property when taking a photograph at which the lens property and the stroboscop were used etc. is performed.

[0046] Moreover, the lens property data feed zone 234 which outputs the lens property according to the photography camera which acquires the information which distinguishes the camera which photoed the film from the film property storage section 232 which memorizes the property of various films, and corresponds is connected to the image-data-processing sections 208 and 214.

[0047] The property of a film is a gradation property (gamma characteristics), and, generally it is expressed with the curve from which concentration changes in three dimensions according to light exposure. In addition, since this point is well-known technology, detailed explanation is omitted.

[0048] Moreover, if specification of a film kind is the form of this operation, the information which shows a film kind is recorded on the magnetic-recording layer of an APS film, and it can be read by the magnetic head at the time of conveyance with the carrier 74 of the line CCD scanner 14. Moreover, in the case of a 135 size film, you may judge in the configuration (perforation is prepared in crosswise ends in the comparatively short pitch) etc., and an operator may be made to key to it. By specifying a film kind, the relative concentration from the film base concentration of a picture is correctly computable.

[0049] In the image-data-processing sections 208 and 214, a reference value is amended according to the film kind and camera kind which are acquired from the film property storage section 232 and the lens property data feed zone 234, and color-balance adjustment, contrast adjustment (color gradation processing), luminosity amendment, saturation amendment (hyper-tone processing), hyper-sharpness processing, etc. are performed according to LUT, a matrix (MTX) operation, etc.

[0050] Moreover, the bloodshot-eyes processing sections 220 and 222 which correct to a natural color the pupil portion which became bloodshot eyes after each aforementioned adjustment and amendment are formed in the image-data-processing sections 208 and 214. About the bloodshot-eyes correction in these bloodshot-eyes processing sections 220 and 222, it mentions later.

[0051] It has changed into the image data for a display for displaying the image data processed by the image-data-processing section 208 on monitor 16M based on 3D-LUT in the image data transducer 210 by the side of a press can. On the other hand, in the image data transducer 216 by the side of a fine scan, the image data processed by the image-data-processing section 214 is changed into the image data for a print in the LASER beam printer section 18 based on 3D-LUT. In addition, the image data and the image data for a print for the above-mentioned display are aiming at coincidence by following various amendments, although color coordinate systems

differ.

[0052] That is, the conditioning section 224 is connected to the press can processing section 212 and the fine scanning-and-processing section 218. The conditioning section 224 consists of the setup section 226, the key amendment section 228, and the parameter integrated section 230.

[0053] Using press can data, the setup section 226 sets up the reading conditions of a fine scan, supplies them to the line CCD scanner 14, and calculates the image-processing conditions of the press can processing section 212 and the fine scanning-and-processing section 218, and supplies them to the parameter integrated section 230.

[0054] According to various kinds of directions inputted with the key which adjusts the concentration set as keyboard 16K, a color, contrast, sharpness, saturation, etc., or the mouse, the key amendment section 228 calculates the amount of adjustments of image-processing conditions, and supplies it to the parameter integrated section 230.

[0055] In the parameter integrated section 230, the image-processing conditions received from the above-mentioned setup section 226 and the key amendment section 228 are sent to the image-data-processing section 208,214 by the side of a press can and a fine scan, and image-processing conditions are amended or reconfigured.

[0056] Here, the bloodshot-eyes correction in the bloodshot-eyes processing sections 220 and 222 is explained, referring to the flow view of drawing 4.

[0057] At Step 100, color-balance adjustment, contrast adjustment, luminosity amendment, saturation amendment (hyper-tone processing), hyper-sharpness processing, etc. specify the picture of the eye used as bloodshot eyes as a processing-object field including the circumference out of the picture which various amendment processings, such as LUT and a matrix (MTX) operation, were performed, and was displayed on monitor 16M.

[0058] Specification of a processing-object field can be performed by inputting from the key amendment section 228 by the operator, or boiling the image-data-processing section 214 and therefore extracting the field which red is concentrating partially within a picture. With this operation gestalt, the processing-object field is specified from the key amendment section 228 by the key input by the operator.

[0059] In addition, as the specification method of the processing-object field by the operator, as shown in drawing 11 (A) – (F), it chooses from the six modes, both the eye package specification mode 1, both the eye package specification mode 2, the independent specification mode 1, the independent specification mode 2, the independent specification mode 3, and the independent specification mode 4, and can specify, for example.

[0060] Both the eye package specification mode 1 is the mode in which surround by the rectangle-like frame 13 with a mouse, a keyboard, etc. in which the field containing the boundary region of both eyes and both eyes was established by the image-processing section 16, and the field in a frame 13 is specified, as shown in drawing 11 (A). In this case, as the dashed line of drawing 11 (A) shows, it specifies by the predetermined ratio from both the outsides of the major axis of the frame 13 which *****ed), and a field is divided, and let the obtained division field be a processing-object field. In addition, a predetermined ratio is a ratio which computes statistically the ratio of the size of the eye to the size of the major axis of a frame 13, and is obtained, and respectively, including at least one eye, the divided field is set up so that the field of a glabella may be removed. In addition, a frame 13 is good also as other configurations, such as not only the shape of a rectangle but elliptical.

[0061] Moreover, both the eye package specification mode 2 is the mode in which specify with a mouse, a keyboard, etc. in which the core of the pupil of both eyes was established by the image-processing section 16, and the field containing the boundary region of both eyes and both eyes is specified, as shown in drawing 11 (B). In this case, the field of the shape of an ellipse which makes length which serves as a predetermined ratio from the ends of the straight line which connects the specified core of the pupil of both eyes one half of the length of a major axis is made into the field of each eye, and let the obtained division field be a processing-object field.

[0062] In addition, also in this case, like both the above-mentioned eye package specification

mode 1, it is the ratio which computes statistically the ratio of the size of the eye to the straight line which connects the core of the pupil of both eyes specified to be a predetermined ratio, and is obtained, and respectively, including at least one eye, an ellipse-like field is set up so that the field of a glabella may be removed.

[0063] Moreover, in both the above-mentioned eye package specification mode 1 and both the eye package specification mode 2, the field which contained both eyes, without dividing a field into each eye field is made into a processing-object field, is put in block, and bloodshot-eyes extraction processing can be performed.

[0064] The independent specification mode 1 is the mode which surrounds the field containing the boundary region of one eye by the rectangle-like frame 13 with a mouse, a keyboard, etc. in which it was prepared by the image-processing section 16, specifies it, and makes the field in a frame 13 a processing-object field, as shown in drawing 11 (C). Also in this case, a frame 13 is good also as other configurations, such as not only the shape of a rectangle but elliptical.

[0065] Moreover, the independent specification mode 2 is the mode in which specify the core of an eye, and the position of the frame formed so that the whole eye may be included as shown in drawing 11 (D), set up so that the frame 13 which contains one eye based on the ratio obtained statistically from the position of the frame to a core may be formed automatically, and the field in this frame 13 is specified as a processing-object field.

[0066] The independent specification mode 3 is the mode in which set up so that the frame 13 of the default size containing the whole eye may be formed automatically, and the field in this frame 13 is specified as a processing-object field, by specifying one one side with the core of an eye, or the periphery of an eye 15 times, as shown in drawing 11 (E). In addition, it can also consider as the mode in which set up so that the whole face may be surrounded by frames, such as the shape of a rectangle, and elliptical, etc. in this case and the frame of one eye or both eye area size may be automatically formed after specification according to the ratio of a face and an eye, and this field within the limit is specified as a processing-object field. Or it can also consider as the mode in which form automatically the frame which specifies the core of both eyes and includes both eyes, and this field within the limit is specified as a processing-object field.

[0067] The independent specification mode 4 is the mode in which the field within the limit which surrounded in the handwritten way with a mouse, a keyboard, etc. in which it was prepared by the image-processing section 16, was crowded and formed the surrounding field of the eye containing an eye is specified as a processing-object field, as shown in drawing 11 (F).

[0068] next -- Step 102 -- the six above-mentioned modes -- the characteristic quantity of the processing-object field specified by any one mode is computed Here, the value of the color obtained from a hue, saturation, and lightness as an extraction element is chosen, and the characteristic quantity which can start the picture of a pupil portion collectively is chosen.

[0069] Since it becomes so large that redness of an r value is strong when redness is expressed with an r value here, in the bloodshot-eyes section, it becomes a large next door, and becomes a minus value by the blue eye. Moreover, if lightness is expressed with a gray d value, since d value serves as size, a bright pixel will serve as smallness by the iris section of a large next door and the Brown system pupil in the catch light section and the pewter section.

[0070] Specifically, when a red value (r) is made into characteristic quantity A and a gray value (d) is made into characteristic quantity B, it is $\alpha B + (1 - \alpha) \times |A|$. -- It is a formula (1) (however, although $\alpha = 0.3$ or more and 0.5 or less are experimentally obtained as a desirable value of α). it can also consider as other values When the value of the characteristic quantity C obtained is graph-ized as a position on the straight line which passes a horizontal axis along a pupil, it has a mountain-like wave for every field of the element (for example, a pewter portion, a pupil portion, a skin portion) which constitutes a picture. In addition, in the definition of the above-mentioned characteristic quantity, it is good also as $d = (R + G + B) / 3$ and $A = (R - d)$ by the color expression by RGB.

[0071] For example, the graph of the characteristic quantity C computed along with the line of the longitudinal direction which passes along an outer canthus has three mountain-like waves corresponding to the field of two pewter portions and the field of a pupil portion in right and left of a pupil, as shown in drawing 10. In addition, extraction of bloodshot eyes is raising the

bloodshot-eyes extractability ability of the pupil of a blue system more difficult than the Brown system by absolute-value-izing characteristic quantity A in the formula of the above-mentioned characteristic quantity C.

[0072] Moreover, although the graph of characteristic quantity A is indicated to drawing 10 (b) and the graph of characteristic quantity B is indicated to drawing 10 (c) as an example of another characteristic quantity, respectively, in drawing 10 (b) and drawing 10 (c), a solid line shows the characteristic quantity of the bloodshot eyes to which a pupil is reflected red, the dotted line shows the valuable characteristic quantity to which a pupil is reflected golden, and the overlapping field serves as a solid line. With these graphs, since the reflected light of monetary value is strong, yellow understands in tint that lightness is high soon for it.

[0073] In the following step 104, field division of the picture is carried out for every field in which characteristic quantity forms a mountain.

[0074] A user specifies or processing by the program is performed so that the pixel (namely, pixel of the position used as a valley) of low characteristic quantity may be most divided as a field as the method of field division, for example, as shown in drawing 10 (b) and drawing 10 (c). In drawing 10 (b) and drawing 10 (c), the bloodshot-eyes field containing a catch light forms a mountain, and the iris section serves as a valley between a pewter portion or a skin portion, and it has become the boundary of field division. In addition, when blue system pupils are bloodshot eyes, the iris section serves as a boundary of field division on the boundary of the blue iris section and the pupil section by above-mentioned [A].

[0075] Moreover, as an option, as shown in drawing 12 (B), the characteristic quantity D which has the mountain configuration where it corresponded every three fields of the portion of the pewter of both sides and a central pupil portion can be chosen, and number allotment processing can divide a field.

[0076] This number allotment processing is processing which assigns the number of the pixel which has the biggest characteristic quantity in the reference area which makes the reference area 24 which consists of nine pixels of three line x3 train which makes a central pixel the view pixel 21 a number allotment processing field, and consists of nine pixels to the view pixel 21, as shown in drawing 12 (A).

[0077] As one example, the characteristic quantity D of drawing 12 (B) is chosen, and the field expanded partially is explained for explanation. As shown in drawing 13 (A), a total of the pixel line of three lines, the pixel line of N lines which is a pixel corresponding to the portions of the 1st mountain configuration of the characteristic quantity D of drawing 12 (B) and the 2nd mountain configuration, the pixel train of N-1 line on it, and the lower pixel train of N+1 line, is shown in drawing 13 (B) and drawing 13 (C) n train every, respectively. in addition, the coordinate of each attention pixel -- ** (however (XN, Ym), m one or more natural numbers) -- it describes

[0078] As shown in drawing 13 (B), when even eye eye one train - 3 train is made into the reference area 24, it first judges whether the characteristic quantity D of the attention pixel 21 and the becoming pixel (XN, Y2) is the largest in the reference area 24. In this case, since the characteristic quantity of the pixel (XN, Y3) of **** is larger than the characteristic quantity of the attention pixel 21 and the becoming pixel (XN, Y2) as shown in drawing 13 (A), a number is not given to the attention pixel 21 and the becoming pixel (XN, Y2), but it judges whether characteristic quantity is large in reference area about the attention pixel of the next reference area.

[0079] in addition, in this example, it shall process so that an attention pixel is alike and may move one [at a time] in the direction of arrow I in accordance with N train Therefore, as for the next reference area, reference area will move like eye eye three trains - 5 train and -- in eye eye two trains - 4 train and its next reference area.

[0080] As shown in drawing 13 (C), when even eye 3 - 5 train is made into the reference area 24, since the characteristic quantity of the attention pixel 21 and the becoming pixel (XN, Y4) corresponds to the peak of the mountain configuration exactly shown in drawing 13 (A), it becomes the largest. Therefore, "1" is given as a new allotment number and the size of characteristic quantity is judged about the attention pixel of the next reference area (namely,

eye eye four trains - 6 train).

[0081] Since characteristic quantity is smaller than the last attention pixel, as for all the attention pixels of the reference area of up to eye eight trains make the pixel corresponding to a trough into an attention pixel from the reference area of eye ey four trains - 6 train - 10 train, "1" will be given altogether.

[0082] Since all the reference area of up to eye 13 trains make the pixel in front of [of the pixel corresponding to next Yamabe] one into an attention pixel from the reference area of up to eye 7 which make the following one pixel an attention pixel trains - 9 train of the pixel corresponding to the aforementioned trough - 15 train has characteristic quantity larger than the last attention pixel, a number is not given altogether. "2" is given even for all the attention pixels of the reference area which makes the pixel corresponding to the following trough an attention pixel from the reference area of up to eye 14 trains make the pixel corresponding to next Yamabe into an attention pixel - 16 train as a new allotment number. by this repeat As shown in drawing 13 (D), in allotment processing of a single-tier eye, the new allotment number corresponding to each mountain will be given partially.

[0083] Therefore, since characteristic quantity in reference area including comparison with th number already assigned by number allotment processing of the Nth line will be measured when the following line, for example, the N+1st line, is made into an attention pixel, By performing number allotment processing repeatedly, the number to which the pixel which constitutes each mountain configuration was altogether given corresponding to each mountain configuration will be given, and, finally a number will be given to all pixels. Therefore, two or more fields divided by th number which corresponded for every mountain configuration of characteristic quantity will b obtained.

[0084] In addition, a pixel with larger characteristic quantity (X_n, Y_{m+1}) than the characteristic quantity of an attention pixel (X_n, Y_m) exists in reference area. When the number is not given to this pixel, the position of an attention pixel (X_n, Y_m) is memorized as a coordinate. the pixel (X_n, Y_{m+1}) of the aforementioned **** -- a new attention pixel -- carrying out -- reference area -- determining -- this -- it judges whether it has the characteristic quantity in the newly determined reference area with the new biggest attention pixel (X_n, Y_{m+1})

[0085] the above, if the pixel which has bigger characteristic quantity than a new attention pix l (X_n, Y_{m+1}) exists in the newly determined reference area Furthermore, the position of a new attention pixel (X_n, Y_{m+1}) is memorized as a coordinate. the above -- you may process the pixel (X_{n+i}, Y_{m+j}) (however, i and j integer) which has bigger characteristic quantity than a new attention pixel (X_n, Y_{m+1}) so that the processing same as a new attention pixel may be repeated

[0086] In this case, if it memorizes when a number cannot be given about the pixel which measured characteristic quantity once, although only the pixel of the same line does not necessarily turn into an attention pixel, and a number is given to a pixel with the highest characteristic quantity in the field since the number will be given to all the memorized pixels as shown in drawing 14 -- repeatedly -- repeating -- ** -- compared with the case where measure characteristic quantity and a number is given, number allotment processing can be performed at a quick speed By such number allotment processing, as shown in drawing 6 , the area corresponding to the part of an eye by which field division was carried out for every field is obtained mostly.

[0087] At Step 106, it checks [field / which was divided at Step 104] about each of a configuration, an arrangement relation (position) with other fields, the rate of surface ratio, concentration, and an average tint, respectively, and what has the feature of a pupil portion most is chosen as a bloodshot-eyes field. In addition, when two or more fields are chosen as a bloodshot-eyes field in the picture of on eye, it evaluates about each of a configuration, an arrangement relation (position) with other fields, the rate of surface ratio, concentration, and an average tint, and the field where evaluation is the highest is chosen as a bloodshot-eyes field.

[0088] As the method of evaluation, for every division field, it asks for the 1st mark to which mark become high, and there is the m thod of making what has the f ature of a pupil portion most, i.e., a bloodshot-eyes field, what has the highest mark, for example, so that circularity is

large. Moreover, the distance between the position of the center of gravity and the center position of the appointed field is computed, for every division field, it asks for the 2nd mark from which mark serve as size, so that distance is short, and there is the method of making what has the feature of a pupil portion most, i.e., a bloodshot-eyes field, what has the highest mark.

[0089] Furthermore, it asks for the 3rd mark to which mark become small, and there is the method of making what has the feature of a pupil portion most, i.e., a bloodshot-eyes field, what has the highest mark, so that it asks for the ratio of the area of a division field, and the area of the appointed field and the obtained ratio separates from it for every division field from predetermined ranges, such as the range of the ratio of the area of a pupil and the area of the appointed field for

[0090] Moreover, the average or more in any one of a hue, saturation, and lightness, Any one or more of maximum, the minimum value, contrast, and histogram configurations are used. From comparison with the statistical color tone poor field information measured beforehand, what has the feature near the feature of a color tone poor field asks for the 4th mark to which mark become high, and has the method of making what has the feature of a pupil portion most, i.e., a bloodshot-eyes field, what has the highest mark.

[0091] Furthermore, it asks for the 5th mark to which mark become small, and there is the method of making what has the feature of a pupil portion most, i.e., a bloodshot-eyes field, what has the highest mark, so that it asks according to the center position of a pupil specified beforehand, and the interval of both eyes and separates from the center of a pupil. If a pupil portion separates from a pupil with the peak as shown in drawing 15 (B) showing the mark on the dashed line shown in drawing 15 (A), the 5th mark will be set up so that mark may become low.

[0092] Although at least one of these five mark may be chosen and a bloodshot-eyes field may be distinguished based on these mark, it is good more preferably to judge the field of a high order L (1 or more [However, L]) individual by the number of the average mark or weighted average mark or more in two of the five aforementioned mark to be a color tone poor field.

[0093] For example, as shown in drawing 16, when being divided into six area (division field), as shown in drawing 16 (A) The 1st mark One A4 area, two A6 area, three A2 area, Four A3 area, five A1 area, and area 6 are A5 points, and, as for area 1, as for B5 point, two B4 area, and ar a 3, the 2nd mark presuppose that it is B6 point B-2 point, four B3 area, five B1 area, and area 6. However, $A1 > A2 > A3 > A4 > A5 > A6$ -- (1) $B1 > B-2 > B3 > B4 > B5 > B6$ -- It is (2).

[0094] Therefore, if the average mark of the 1st mark and the 2nd mark is taken out for every field, as shown in drawing 16 (B) Area 1 $(A4+B5) / \text{two points}$, and area 2 $(A6+B4) / \text{two points}$, The area 3 of $(A1+B1) / \text{two points}$, and area 6 becoming $(A5+B6) / \text{two points}$ in $(A3+B3) / \text{two points}$, and area 5, and area 5 having $[(A2+B-2) / \text{two points}]$ the highest mark from the formula of the above (1) and the formula of (2) is clear.

[0095] In addition, what has still higher mark is high by taking the weighted average which gave heavy weight to the high order of mark, and since a low thing becomes low, what a mark difference spreads and has the feature of a pupil portion most is clearly distinguishable.

[0096] In the pixel of a bloodshot-eyes field, based on the pixel of the minimum lightness, at Step 108, the lightness of all pixels is amended to the pixel of the bloodshot-eyes field chosen as mentioned above so that it may be the same as the lightness of the pixel of the minimum lightness or may approach. For example, when lightness of the pixel of the bloodshot-eyes field which serves as dmin and a candidate for amendment in the lightness of the pixel of the minimum lightness in the pixel of a bloodshot-eyes field is set to x, computing lightness x' after amendment of the pixel of the bloodshot-eyes field used as the candidate for amendment by the following formulas (2) is mentioned.

[0097]

$x' = x - (x - dmin) \times a$ -- Formula (2)

(Since the picture after correction will be made in addition with a natural atmosphere if the value of a is set to $1 \leq a \leq 1.3$, it is desirable.) The pupil section which became bloodshot eyes as a result serves as a picture to which it applies in the center from the circumference and lightness falls gradually after correction.

[0098] Along with the line which passes along an outer canthus as an example of correction, the

lightness before correction is shown in drawing 7 (a), and the lightness after correction is shown in drawing 7 (b).

[0099] According to the saturation of the pixel of the minimum saturation, it amends about saturation as well as the correction method of the above-mentioned lightness. Of course, as long as it is finished in a natural atmosphere, only saturation may carry out amendment composition only of the lightness also as amendment composition. In addition, it is also possible to consider as the special tint which could set up the amount of amendments of characteristic quantity beforehand according to liking of a user, and was doubled with liking of a user in this case.

[0100] Or a gradation pattern is formed in a radial toward a periphery as other correction technique from the center of the corrected bloodshot-eyes field, and it attaches by the color which had the gradation pattern specified that concentration becomes thin toward a periphery from a center. Here, the maximum concentration value detected from the pupil portion of other fields which do not serve as a specified color on bloodshot eyes, the minimum concentration value and the aforementioned maximum concentration value, the maximum concentration value adjusted from the minimum concentration value, the minimum concentration value, the maximum concentration value, the minimum concentration value which were beforehand defined by the user, etc. can be chosen. In addition, since the art which gives a gradation pattern is well-known technology, detailed explanation is omitted.

[0101] In case d_{min} of the above-mentioned formula (2), the maximum of the concentration for gradation pattern controls, and the minimum value are determined, you may change either of the whole picture as a comparison field in the appointed field of an eye, and a face field in a bloodshot-eyes field.

[0102] At Step 110, a partial high brightness field, i.e., a highlight field, is formed in the corrected bloodshot-eyes field, and let this be a catch light. The position of a catch light is made into the maximum lightness position of the bloodshot-eyes field before correction, and is performed by forming the luminescent spot of a radial based on the maximum lightness position.

[0103] For example, when lightness of the pixel of the position which has d_{min} and the bloodshot-eyes field which serves as k and a candidate for amendment in the adjustment factor of lightness in the lightness of the pixel of the minimum lightness in the pixel of a bloodshot-eyes field is set to $y(i, j)$, computing lightness $y'(i, j)$ of the pixel of the catch light position in a bloodshot-eyes field by the following formulas (3) is mentioned.

[0104]

$y'(i, j) = d_{min} + k(i, j) \times \{y(i, j) - d_{min}\}$ -- Formula (3)

However, i and j show the position in a catch light, and from a center, the lightness of the pixel which constitutes a catch light sets up the adjustment factor k of lightness, since it becomes low gradually at a radial, for example, as shown in the table shown in drawing 8, and it changes the adjustment factor k of lightness (i, j) according to the position in a catch light (i, j) .

[0105] In addition, it can consider as the pupil picture of a much more natural atmosphere by making it correspond to the picture size of the bloodshot-eyes field to correct, and setting up the size of a catch light, and the adjustment factor of lightness.

[0106] Moreover, although it is made to change the lightness of each pixel according to to which position of a catch light a pixel corresponds in order to form a catch light portion, it can also constitute from this operation gestalt so that a catch light pattern may be formed beforehand and it may stick on a catch light position. It can set up so that enlarging or contracting of a size can be freed also in this case, and it can consider as the pupil picture of a much more natural atmosphere by making it correspond to the picture size of the bloodshot-eyes field to correct, and changing the size of a catch light. Of course, it can do with the pupil picture of a much more natural atmosphere by enabling it to set up lightness freely similarly about lightness.

[0107] The graph of lightness which met the line of the longitudinal direction which passes along the outer canthus of the picture which performed bloodshot-eyes correction to drawing 9, and formed the catch light pattern in it is shown.

[0108] In addition, although processing from Step 102 to Step 106 shall be performed once about the same appointed field with this operation gestalt, it can also consider as a setup which repeats processing from Step 102 to Step 106 two or more times, and performs it, and

extraction of a bloodshot-eyes field can be extracted with a much more sufficient precision in this case.

[0109] In addition, this invention can connect not only the composition described above but an adjoining division field, and can also apply bloodshot-eyes evaluation. For example, when 2 ****s of original bloodshot-eyes portions are carried out, evaluation of circularity increases by connecting the field where a bloodshot-eyes portion is contained, and recognizing as one field. Consequently, when the evaluating point of the connected field exceeds the evaluating point in an individual division field, the connected field is judged to be a bloodshot-eyes field.

[0110] In addition, since each processing of the above-mentioned bloodshot-eyes extraction, bloodshot-eyes field correction, catch light addition, etc. is an execute permission independently, it can also perform bloodshot-eyes correction processing with the combination for which other technique or manual processing was substituted about each of each processing.

[0111] Moreover, you may perform amendment processing which carries out enlarging or contracting of the normal pupil to the extracted bloodshot-eyes field, and sticks it on it. In this case, after sticking an eye, it is good to modify and to make it suit sensibility of the whole.

[0112]

[Effect of the Invention] As explained above, according to invention of a claim 1 to the claim 3, the effect that only the field which divides a field correctly and has the need for correction can be chosen as a correction object domain no matter it may be what picture is attained.

[0113] Moreover, according to invention of a claim 4 and a claim 5, the effect that only a pupil field can be chosen correctly is attained.

[0114] Furthermore, according to invention of a claim 6 to the claim 20, the effect that the pupil field which is a correction object domain is correctly correctable is attained.

[0115] Moreover, according to invention of a claim 21, the effect that a natural atmosphere can be made to the corrected picture is attained.

[0116] Moreover, according to invention of a claim 22, the effect that bloodshot-eyes amendment processing can be performed with a sufficient precision is attained.

[Translation done.]

* NOTICES *

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- 1.This document has been translated by computer. So the translation may not reflect the original precisely.
- 2.**** shows the word which can not be translated.
- 3.In the drawings, any words are not translated.

DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

[Brief Description of the Drawings]

[Drawing 1] It is the outline block diagram of the digital language laboratory system concerning the gestalt of operation of this invention.

[Drawing 2] It is the general-view view of digital language laboratory system.

[Drawing 3] It is the control-block view of the image-processing section.

[Drawing 4] It is the flow view showing the flow of the bloodshot-eyes correction processing in the bloodshot-eyes processing sections 220 and 222.

[Drawing 5] It is the graph of the characteristic quantity C at the time of computing along with the line of the longitudinal direction which passes along an outer canthus.

[Drawing 6] It is explanatory drawing at the time of dividing for every mountain based on characteristic quantity C.

[Drawing 7] (a) is the graph of lightness which met the line of the longitudinal direction which passes along an outer canthus, and (b) is a graph which shows the state where the lightness of the bloodshot-eyes field in (a) was corrected, based on the formula (2) set to $a=1.3$.

[Drawing 8] It is drawing showing the relation between the position of the pixel in a catch light, and the adjustment factor of lightness.

[Drawing 9] It is the graph of lightness which met the line of the longitudinal direction which passes along the outer canthus of the picture which performed bloodshot-eyes correction and formed the catch light pattern.

[Drawing 10] (a) is the transverse-plane schematic diagram of an eye, (b) is the graph of the characteristic quantity A computed along with the line of the longitudinal direction which passes along an outer canthus, and (c) is the graph of the characteristic quantity B computed along with the line of the longitudinal direction which passes along an outer canthus.

[Drawing 11] It is explanatory drawing showing the example of the specification method of the processing-object field by the operator.

[Drawing 12] It is explanatory drawing explaining the method of number allotment processing, and drawing 12 (A) shows reference area and drawing 12 (B) shows the graph of the selected characteristic quantity D.

[Drawing 13] Drawing 13 (A) is a graph which shows a part of characteristic quantity D, and drawing 13 (B) - drawing 13 (D) are explanatory drawings showing a number allotment procedure.

[Drawing 14] It is explanatory drawing explaining the option of number allotment processing.

[Drawing 15] Drawing 15 (A) shows a processing-object field, and drawing 15 (B) is a graph which shows the mark of a field in alignment with the visual axis of drawing 15 (A).

[Drawing 16] Drawing 16 (A) is explanatory drawing having shown the 1st mark given to each of six division fields, and the 2nd mark. Drawing 16 (B) is explanatory drawing having shown each number of the average mark for every six division fields.

[Description of Notations]

10 Digital Language Laboratory System

14 Line CCD Scanner

16 Image-Processing Section

66 Light Source Section
68 Photographic Film
200 Data-Processing Section
202 Log Converter
204 Press Can Memory
206 Fine Scan Memory
208 Image-Data-Processing Section
212 Press Can Processing Section
214 Image-Data-Processing Section
218 Fine Scanning-and-Processing Section
220 Bloodshot-Eyes Processing Section
224 Conditioning Section
234 Lens Property Data Feed Zone

[Translation done.]

【発明の属する技術分野】本発明は、画像処理方法に關し、特に、ディジタル画像内の被写体の色の色調不良を修正して出力する画像処理方法に關する。

[0002]

【従来の技術】従来より、撮影中の光の反射状態により、被写体が實際とは異なる色の画像として写る場合が多々あり、この赤目はあまりにも不自然で見栄えが悪いため、画像処理により自然に見えるように修正することがなされている。

〔0003〕例えば、ストロポで人物を正面から撮影すると、瞳孔が引く赤文は金色に写るいわゆる赤目現象が生じる場合がある。この赤目現象は、暗い場所から出入りする時に起る状態の一例として、ストロポの光が正射しするということによって、ストロポの光が正射され、この状態が瞳孔に等しく込むために起こる現象であり、瞳が赤く等しく赤目と称す。赤目は金色に写る金目とがある（以後、両方を合せて赤目と略す。）。

【0004】このような赤目は、写り取れが悪いため、従来よりこの赤目を修正するための様々な画像処理方法が提案されている。例えば、特開平7-72537号公報では、赤目修正対象となる目の周囲を前顔指定して、周辺では、赤目修正対象としない範囲における顔処理を行ない、対象となる顔部分が定めた範囲内であれば赤目と判断して修正する方法が挙げられている。また、特開平9-261580号公報では、エッジに囲まれた領域内の色情報と色点情報とに基づいて顔輪廓領域を選択し、色情報と色点情報とに基づいて顔輪廓領域内を修正することにより赤目修正が行う方法が挙げられている。

[0005]

【発明が解決しようとする課題】
 昭和四十七年七月二十五日公報の特開(昭)9-261058
 の号公报等7の発明の従来方法では、彩度、輝度、色相における
 個々の処理により赤目領域を分別して修正しており、赤
 目の彩度、輝度、色相は強いため、多数のサンプルに
 おいては露出化や抽出漏れが生じることは避けられな
 い。また、例えば、肌色部分と唇の赤目処理と共に黒く
 修正され、結果として違和感のある面画となる恐れもある。

【0006】また、符号平9-261580号公報等のように画像のエッジを抽出する場合には、一般に、画像のエッジはかなり複雑であるため、過剰分割や、領域分割ミスが発生する恐れもある。

【0007】すなわち、前者の方法では、領域ごとに区切らずに色の範囲のみで赤目かどうかを判断するため、修正の必要のない領域が修正の必要ない領域とともに修正対象領域として検出されやすく、後者の方法では、領域の分割が正確に行えないので修正対象領域である同領域だけを修正するのが難しいという問題がある。

【0008】そこで、本発明は、どのような画像であっても正隣に領域を分割して修正の必要のある領域だけを

修正対象機械として選択する面処理方法を提供する。ここで第1の目的とする。また、町幅だけを正確に逆くする面処理方法を提供することを第2の目的とする。さらに、修正対象領域である町幅域を正確に修正可能な面処理方法を提供することを第3の目的とする。また、修正された側壁を正確な茶畑に仕上げることも、可能な面処理方法を提供することを第4の目的とする。

[600]

【課題を解決するための手段】上記課題1の目的を達成するために、色調不良となつた領域を含む予め指定した面（色調不良面）をx-y平面とし、各要素ごとに色相、彩度、明度のうちをいづれか1つまたは2つ以上の組み合わせで元のx-y-z空間を設定し、x-y平面的広がりに対して補元の色山状の分布形状を持つ補領域にx-y平面を領域分割し、各分割領域のx-y平面上面での形状情報、位置情報、面積情報、統計的画像特徴量のうちのいずれか1つまたは2つ以上の組み合わせにより、該色調不良領域の判別を行い、色調不良領域と判別された領域を规定的に正常な面の領域となるよう修正する。

【0010】すなわち、本発明は、キャッチャー部分を含めた赤目領域等の色調補正値を一括して切り出し、修正する方法である。赤目部分は、瞳孔部の中心位置と左右の反射が強いため、凹度は中央から周辺部に向けて低くなる傾向を持つ。したがって、キャッチャー部分も含めて凹度が山状に分布することを利用する。また、虹彩部は、プラーン系膜では虹彩色が明度の谷間となることを利用し、背目系膜では虹彩の値の大ききについて赤目と対した瞳孔部との谷間となすことを利用する。

【0011】即ち、明度や赤味を組み合わせさせた特許量を用いて、赤目部とそれ隣接する白目及び眼部の間に谷間ができることを利用し、前記特許量の山頂に領域分割することで赤目部を白目及び眼部と分離する。

【0012】また、請求項2の発明は、前記山状の分布形状を持つ領域明に \times Y平面を領域分割する際に、前記予め指定した画素領域内の各画素毎に、番号割り付け処理対象の注目画素を中心とするN行 \times M列（ただし、

N、Mは1以上1画面分の参照領域内で、君目画面の頂記特徴量の値が最大である場合はこの君目画面を山の頂点として断接番号を割り付け、君目画面の前記特徴量の値が最大でなく、かつ、前記参照領域内の君目画面以外の人目の特徴量の値を持つ前画面が割り付け番号を持つ場合は、該割り付け番号を付与する番号より付け処理を、前記予め指定した画像領域内の全画面についていずれかの山の頂点番号が付与されるまで繰り返し、同一番号を持つ前画面の集合を1つの領域とすることにより画像領域を分割を行う。この方法によれば、領域分割をプログラム処理などに行うことができ、ユーザを煩わすことがなく好ましい。

【0013】さらに、請求項3に記述の発明は、前記2に記述の発明を付す特徴域にx-y平面を新築して對する際、前記2に規定した面状域内の各面状域において番号が未決定の面状を新築面状とし、該新築面状を中心とするN行N列(ただし、N、Nは1以上)面状の発照面状がある場合、現着目点の位置を該発照し、前記付照面状内に現着目点よりも大きい前記特徴域の値を有する面状がある場合、現着目点の位置を該付照し、前記付照面状の値が大きい面状を新築着目点とする処理を繰り返す場合、前記新築着目点の特徴域の値が少無領域内であり、ある場合、前記新築着目点の番号が未決定であれば、前記新築着目点の頂点をとして新築番号を割り付け、前記新築着目点に番号が既に割り付けられていればその番号を前記付照した面状の全面状に付する番号割付処理を、前記2項に規定した面状域内の全面状について、一々、前記山の頂点番号が付与されるとして繰返し、同一番号を持つ面状を1つの領域とし、これにより面状領域分けを行う。

【0014】このように、番号が付与できない画素については、例えば、壁紙としてその位置を記憶し、壁紙に新規着目点となった画素に番号が付与されると、記憶した壁紙の画素の全てに記憶に新規着目点となった画素の番号を付与するように処理することによって前述の山脈に新規分割する処理を高速に行うことができる。

如何方法において、前記3色の色調不良領域の判別において、各分群ごとに、円形度特徴値を用いてより円形化に近い程度となる形状特徴としての第1の点数、分割前領域の重心が指定領域の中心位置に近しい程度となる位置情報としての第2の点数、分割前領域の面積と指定領域の面積との比率が所定範囲から外れる程度となる面積特徴としての第3の点数、色相、彩度、明度のうちのいずれか1つ以上の値が指定範囲から外れる程度となる色相・彩度・明度特徴としての第4の点数を算出する。

1つ以上における平均値、最大値、最小値、コントララス、ヒストグラム形状のうちのいずれか1つ以上を用い、結晶性不良色調不良傾向指数としての第4の点数、及び場合を示す結晶性不良傾向指数としての第4の点数、及び、予め指定された相の中心位置と両目の間隔とに依りて求められ、両の中心から外れる層小となる位置情報としての第5の点数の5つの点数のうちの少なくとも1つを点数を求め、最も点数の高いものを色調不良領域としての点数を決定する。

【0016】すなわち、請求項4に記述の発明は、請求

項に記載の分類領域から赤目領域等の色調不良領域を判定する方法であり、分類領域の形状、面積、位置、傾度に関する統計的特徴量を、それぞれ座に近い部分は高い点域となる点域、かつ、隣から遠ざかるにつれて低い点域となる点域を有する。第1～第5の点域に換算し、これら第1～第5の点域の少なくとも1つを用いて色調不良領域を判別する。

【0017】なお、第5点数は、両目の間隔に所定の係数(一般的には、0.07~0.11)を乗算すると略の

合わせにより、暗の色調不良領域の判別を行い、色調不良領域と判別された暗の色調不良領域の最大明度位置をキャッチャイト位置と判別し、該キャッチャイト位置にキャッチャイトパターンを形成する処理を含む修正を行って、前記暗の色調不良領域を視覚的に正常な目の画像となるように修正する。

【0023】すなわち、請求項10の発明では、上記請求項6と同様に上記請求項1と同様の方法で前記色調不良領域の判別を行っているため、赤目などの色調不良領域を各自及び明部と正域に分離でき、結果よく修正することができ。

【0024】それに加えて、請求項10の発明では、暗部分の領域内の最大明度位置をキャッチャイト位置と判別してキャッチャイトパターンを形成している。すなわち、キャッチャイトは最低の輝度部分において部分的に濃度の低い領域であるので、キャッチャイト位置は最も明るい位置であることがわかる。従って、暗部分の領域内の最大明度位置にキャッチャイトを設ける処理を施すことにより、自然で生き生きとした印象の目の画像が得られる。なお、請求項11から請求項15は、上記請求項2から請求項5同様の作用を有するので、説明は省略する。

【0025】請求項16の発明は、色調不良となった目領域を含む予め指定した領域をX-Y平面とし、各画素ごとに色相、彩度、明度のうちのいずれか1つまたは2つ以上の組み合わせにより画像特徴量を求め、該特徴量を2軸に配置する3次元のX-Y-Z空間を決定し、X-Y平面の広がりに対して他の画素の分布形状を持つ領域にX-Y平面を領域別、各分割領域のX-Y平面上の形状情報、位置情報、面積情報、統計情報等の特徴量のうちのいずれか1つまたは2つ以上の組み合わせにより、暗の色調不良領域の判別を行い、色調不良領域と判別された暗領域のサイズに合うように正常な暗領域から切り出した色調正常の暗領域を拡大縮小後、前記色調不良領域と判別された暗領域に貼り込む処理を含む修正を行って、前記暗の色調不良領域を視覚的に正常な目の画像となるように修正する。

【0026】すなわち、請求項16の発明は、色調不良領域と判別された暗領域に正常な暗領域から切り出した色調正常の暗領域を拡大縮小して貼り付けるため、比較的簡単な修正処理で暗の色調不良領域を視覚的に正常な目の画像となるように修正できる。なお、請求項17から請求項20は、上記請求項2から請求項5同様の作用を有するので、説明は省略する。

【0027】さらに、上記請求4の目的を達成するためにも、請求項21の発明は、請求項1から請求項21のいずれか1項に記載の画像処理方法において、前記色調不良の目領域を含む指定領域の指定回数に応じて、画像の領域分割手法または領域分割に用いる特徴量を変更し、あるいは、色調不良領域判定に用いる特徴量の種類または

は特徴量の計算方法または判定基準を変更し、あるいは、色調不良領域の修正方法を変更する。

【0028】これにより、修正の必要のないもう一方の目の位置と修正した目の画像の位置とを比較して修正した目の画像の位置を自然な位置に配置されるようにするし、修正した目の色を、修正の必要のないもう一方の目の色と同じ雰囲気にするなどの調整を行えるため、自然な雰囲気仕上ることが可能である。また、キャッチャイトの領域内の位置情報が目によって、キャッチャイトの位置補正も行う。

【0029】請求項22の発明は、赤目修正処理を複数回行う場合に対応する発明であり、請求項1から請求項21のいずれか1項に記載の画像処理方法において、前記色調不良の目領域を含む指定領域の指定回数に応じて、暗領域の領域分割手法または領域分割に用いる特徴量を変更し、あるいは、色調不良領域判定に用いる特徴量の種類または特徴量の計算方法または判定基準を変更し、あるいは、色調不良領域の修正方法を更新する。

【0030】例えば、赤目領域判定基準が上記特徴量の山崎領域判定である場合、二回目の赤目領域判定基準を上記特徴量の山崎領域判定ではなく、色相の類似度による領域分割に変更したり、判定において一回目の判定で用いていた内形判定基準を除外する。あるいは一回目の判定で用いていた内形判定基準を除外するなどが挙げられる。

【0031】
【発明の実施形態】図1及び図2には、本実施形態に係るデジタルラボシステム100の構成が示されている。

【0032】図1に示すように、このデジタルラボシステム100は、ラインCCDスキャナ14、画像処理部16、レーザプリンタ18、及びプロセッサ20を含んで構成されており、ラインCCDスキャナ14と画像処理部16は、図2に示す入力部26として一体化されており、レーザプリンタ18及びプロセッサ20は、図2に示す出力部28として一体化されている。

【0033】ラインCCDスキャナ14は、ネガフィルムやリバーサルフィルム等の写真フィルムに記録されているコマ画像を読み取るためのものであり、例えば135サイズの写真フィルム、110サイズの写真フィルム、5サイズの写真フィルム、110サイズの写真フィルム、及び透明な磁気層が形成された写真フィルム(240サイズの写真フィルム：所謂APSフィルム)、120サイズの写真フィルム(ローニサイズ)の写真をフィルムのコマ画像を記録対象とすることができる。ラインCCDスキャナ14は、上記の撮影対象のコマ画像をラインCCD30で読み取り、A/D変換部32においてA/D変換した後、画像データを画像処理部16へ出力する。

【0034】なお、本実施形態では、240サイズの写真フィルム(APSフィルム)68を適用した場合のデジタルラボシステム100として説明する。

【0035】画像処理部16は、ラインCCDスキャナ14から出力された画像データ(スキャン画像データ)が入力されると共に、デジタルカメラ34等での撮影によって得られた画像データ、原稿(例えば原稿原稿等)をスキャナ36(フラットベッド型)で読み取ることで得られた画像データ、他のコンピュータで生成され、フロッピディスクドライブ38、MOドライブ又はCDドライブ40に記録された画像データ、及びモデム42を介して受信した通信画像データ等(以下、これらをフィルム画像データと総称する)を外部から入力することも可能なように構成されている。

【0036】画像処理部16は、入力された画像データを画像メモリ44に記憶し、色調補正部46、ハイパースペクトル処理部48、ハイパーシャープネス処理部50等の各種の補正等の画像処理を行って、記憶画像データとしてレーザプリンタ部18へ出力する。また、画像処理部16は、画像処理を行った画像データを画像ファイルとして外部へ出力する(例えばF.D、M.O、C.D等の記憶媒体に出力したり、通信回線を通じて他の画像処理部へ送信する等)ことも可能とされている。

【0037】レーザプリンタ部18はR、G、Bのレーザ光源52を備えており、レーザドライバ54を制御して、画像処理部16から入力された記憶画像データ(一旦、画像メモリ56に記憶される)に応じて集光し、レーザ光を印刷ミラミラ58、fθレンズ60を用いた光学系)によって印刷紙62に画像を記録する。また、プロセッサ部20は、レーザプリンタ部18で集光された光によって画像が記録された印刷紙62に対して、発色調整、濃白調整、水洗、乾乾の各処理を施す。これにより、印刷紙上に画像が形成される。

【0038】ラインCCDスキャナの構成について説明する。図1にラインCCDスキャナ14の構成について説明する。図1にラインCCDスキャナ14の光学系の構成が示されている。この光学系は、写真フィルム68に光を照射する光源66を備えており、光源66の光射出口には、写真フィルム68に照射する光を並列光とする光並列板72が配置されている。

【0039】写真フィルム68は、光並列板72が配置された側に設置されたフィルムアリア74によって、コマ画像の画像が光軸と垂直になるように搬送される。【0040】写真フィルム68を挟んで光源66と反対側には、光軸に沿って、コマ画像を通過した光を減衰させるレンズユニット76、ラインCCD30が順に配置されている。なお、レンズユニット76として、実際のレンズのみを示しているが、レンズユニット76は、実際には複数のレンズから構成されたズームレンズである。なお、レンズユニット76として、セルフアフォーカスを用いてもよい。この場合、セルフアフォーカス両端をそれぞれ、可能な限り写真フィルム68及びラ

ラインCCD30に接近させることが好ましい。

【0041】ラインCCD30は、複数のCCDセルを並列して配置されたフィルム68の幅方向に沿って一列に配置され、かつ電圧シャッタ機構が設けられたセンシング部が、時間を置いて互いに平行に3ライン駆動されており、各センシング部の光入射側にR、G、Bの色分解フィルタの何れかが各々取り付けられて構成されている(所謂3ラインカラーCCD)。ラインCCD30は、各センシング部の受光面がレンズユニット76の結像点位置に一致するように配置されている。

【0042】また、図示は省略するが、ラインCCD30とレンズユニット76との間にはシャッタが設けられている。

(画像処理部16の制御系の構成)図3には、図1に示す画像処理部16の主要構成である画像メモリ44、色調補正部46、ハイパースペクトル処理部48、ハイパーシャープネス処理部50の各処理を実行するための詳細なブロック図が示されている。

【0043】ラインCCDスキャナ14から出力されたRGBの各デジタル信号は、データ処理部200において、暗部補正、欠損画素補正、シェーディング補正等の特定のデータ処理が施された後、100%変換器202によってデジタル画像データ(変換データ)に変換され、アドレスキャッチング部はアドレスキャッチメモリ204に記憶され、アドレスキャッチング部はアドレスキャッチメモリ206に記憶される。

【0044】アドレスキャッチメモリ204に記憶されたアドレスキャッチング部は、画像データ処理部208と画像データ処理部210とで構成されたアドレスキャッチメモリ212に送出される。一方、アドレスキャッチメモリ212に記憶されたアドレスキャッチング部は、画像データ処理部214と画像データ処理部216とで構成されたアドレスキャッチメモリ218へ送出される。

【0045】これらのアドレスキャッチメモリ212及びアドレスキャッチメモリ218では、画像を撮影したときとレンズ特性及びストロポを使用した撮影したときのストロポ光特性に基づき補正等を実行する。

【0046】また、画像データ処理部208、214には、各写真フィルムの特性を記憶するフィルム特性記憶部232と、フィルムを撮影したカメラを判別する情報を取得して対応する画像カメラに応じたレンズ特性を出力するレンズ特性データ供給部234とが設けられている。

【0047】フィルムの特性とは、露光特性(γ特性)であり、一般には、感光速度に応じて露度が三次元的に変化する曲線で表される。なお、この点は周知の技術であるため、詳細な説明は省略する。

【0048】また、フィルム補正部は、本実施形態では、APSフィルムの画素記録方式にフィルム補正を示す情報を記憶しており、ラインCCDスキャナ14の

キャリア74での最速時に、磁気ヘッドによって読み取ることが可能である。また、1.35サイズフィルムの出射台は、その形状（幅方向端に比較的短いビデオヘッド）により、オペレーションが受けられている）等で判断してもよい。フィルム様を特定することにより、個々のフィルムベース速度からの相対的な速度を正確に算出できる。

【0049】高度データ処理部208、214では、フレキシブル処理部23と24とレンダリング特性データ供給部234とから得られるフルカラーとモノクロとを含むデータに基づいて、カラーバランス調整、明るさ補正、彩度補正（ハイパー調整（色階調処理）、明るさ補正、彩度補正（ハイパー調整））、ハイパーシャープネス処理等が、LUT（ルックアップテーブル）演算により実行されるようになっている。

【0050】また、画像データ処理部208、214には、前記各調整、補正後に、赤目となった画部分を自然な色に修正する赤目処理部220、222が設けられていて、この赤目処理部220、222における赤目修正については、後述する。

【0051】プレスキーム間の画像データ変換部210では、画像データ処理部208によって処理された画像データを3D-LUTに基づいてモニタ16Mへ表示するためのディスプレイ用画像データに変換している。一方、フェイスプレイン部の画像データに変換部216では、画像データ処理部214によって処理された画像データを、3D-LUTに基づいてレーザプリンタ部18でのプリント用画像データに変換している。なお、上記ディスプレイ用の画像データと、プリント用画像データとは、表色系が異なるが、以下のような様々な補正によって一致を図っている。

【0052】すなわち、プレスキャン処理部212及び
ファインスキャン処理部218には、条件設定部224
が接続されている。条件設定部224は、セットアップ
部226、キー補正部228、パラメータ統合部230
とで構成されている。

【0053】セットアップ部226は、プレスキャンデ
ータを用いて、ファインスキャンの印刷条件を設定し、
ラインCCDスキャナ14に供給し、また、プレスキャ
ン処理部212及びファインスキャン処理部218の画
像処理条件を演算し、パラメータ統合部230に供給し
ている。

【0054】キー補正部228は、キーボード16Kに設定された品型、色、コントラスト、シャープネス、彩度等を調整するキーやマウスで入力された各種の指示データに応じて、画像処理条件の調整量を算出し、パラメータ設定部230へ供給している。

【0055】パラメータ統台部230では、上記セットアップ部226及びキー補正部228から受け取った画像処理条件をプレスキャン部及びファインスキャン部の

画像データ処理部208、214へ送り、画像処理条件を補正あるいは再設定する。

【0056】ここで、赤目処理部220、222における赤目修正について、図4のフロー図を参照しながら説明する。

【0057】ステップ100では、カラーバランス調整、コントラスト調整、明るさ補正、彩度補正（ハイパターニング処理）、ハイパージャーネース処理等が、LUTやマトリクス（MTX）演算等の各種処理で実施された目的画像をその側面を含めて処理対象領域として指定する。

【0058】処理対象領域の指定は、オペレータによってキー補正部228から入力したり、画像内の部分的に赤色が集中している領域を画像データ処理部214によって抽出することにより行える。本実施形態では、オペレータによるキー入力によってキー補正部228から処理対象領域を指定している。

【0059】なお、オペレータによる処理対象領域の指定方法としては、例えば、図11(A)～(F)に示すように、項目一括指定モード1、項目一括指定モード2、単独指定モード1、単独指定モード2、単独指定モード3、及び単独指定モード4の6つのモードから選択して指定できる。

【0060】同一站指定モードは、図11(A)に示すように、両目と両目の周辺領域を含む領域を、画像処理部16に送けられたマウスやキーボード等により矩形状の枠13で囲んで枠13内の領域を指定するモードである。この場合、図11(A)の破線が示すように、指定領域した枠13の長軸の両端側から所定の比率で指定して領域を分別し、得られた分別領域を処理対象領域とする。なお、所定の比率とは枠13の長軸の寸法に対する、目の寸法の比率を統計的に算出して得られる比率であり、分別された領域が各々々とも1つの目を含み、1つの領域は複数目が除かれるように設定される。なお、枠13は矩形形状に限らず楕円形状等の形状としてもよい。

【0061】また、両目一括指定モード2は、図11(B)に示すように、両目の間の中心点を画像処理部18に掛けられたマウスやキーボード等により指定して、両目1、両目の周辺領域を含む領域を指定するモードである。この場合、指定した両目の間の中心点を結ぶ直線の両端から所定の長さとなる長さを含む $1/2$ の長さとする両目間の領域を両目の領域とし、得られた分割する領域が図12の領域となる。

【0062】なお、この場合も上記の両目一括指定モード1と同様に、所定の比率とは指定した両目の幅の中心部を結ぶ直線に対する目の寸法の比率を統計的に算出して得られる比率であり、両目状の領域は各々少なくとも1つの目を含み、両目の領域が離れるように設定される。

【0063】また、上記両目一括指定モード1及び両目一括指定モード2においては、個々の目領域に領域を分割せずに両目を含んだ領域を処理対象領域とし、一括して赤目抽出処理を行うようにすることもできる。

〔0064〕 単独指定モード1は、図11(C)に示すように、1つの目の周辺領域を含む領域を、面状処理部116に送けられたマウスやキーボード等により矩形状の枠113で囲んで指定し、枠113内の領域を処理対象領域とするモードである。この場合も、枠113は矩形状に限らず四角形や他の形状としてもよい。

【0065】また、单独指定モード2は、図11(D)に示すように、目の中心部と、目全体を含むように形成する枠の位置とを指定して、中心部に対する枠の位置から統計的に得られる比率に基づいて1つの目を含む13を自動的に形成するように設定して、この13内の領域を顔面対象領域として指定するモードである。

【0066】本指定モード3は、図11(E)に示すように、目の中央部、または目の周辺部との一方をワーク所15指定することにより、顔全体を含むデフォルトサイズの枠13を自動的に形成するように設定してこの枠13内の領域を顔対称領域として指定するモードである。なお、この場合、顔全体を矩形形状、又は楕円形状とする。

の枠等で側面、額と目の比率に応じて目玉は大きくは両目領域サイズの枠を自動的に形成するように設定してこの枠内領域を処理対象領域として指定するモードとすることもできる。盛いは、両目の中心部を指定して両目を包含する枠を自動的に形成してこの枠内領域を処理対象領域として指定するモードとすることもできる。

【0067】単独指定モード4は、図11(F)に示すように、目を台む目の周辺の領域を画像処理部16に設けられたマウスやキーボード等により手動による変換で図みこんで形成した枠内の領域を処理対象領域として指定するモードである。

〔0068〕次に、ステップ102では、上記6つのモードうちのいずれか1つのモードによって指定された別型対数補償の倍放倍を算出する。ここでは、倍出要素として色相、彩度、明度から得られる色の値を選択し、明部分の画素を一括して切り出せるような倍放倍を選択する。

【0069】ここで、意味を与えてみると、「d」は赤味が強い程度大さくなるので、赤目部では大となり、また、青い目ではマイナスイ値となる。また、明度をグレースケールで表すと、明るい画素はd値が大となるので、キャッチャイト部や、白目部では大となり、ブラウン系はd値の小さい部では小となる。

【0070】具体的には、レッド値（ r ）を特徴量A、グレイ値（ d ）を特徴量Bとしたとき、 $\alpha \times B + (1 - \alpha) \times A$ …式（1）（ただし、 α の好ましい値としては実験的に、 $\alpha = 0.3$ 以上、 0.5 以下が得られて、

ただし、 i と j はキャッチャイト内の位置を示しており、キャッチャイトを構成する画素の明度は中心から外周に徐々に低くなるため、例えば、図8に示すまのうに、明度の調整係数 k を設定し、キャッチャイト内の位置(i, j)に応じて明度の調整係数 $k(i, j)$ を変更する。

【0105】なお、修正する赤目領域の画像寸法に対応させてキャッチャイトの寸法及び明度の調整係数を設定することにより一団自然な雰囲気のある補正画像とすることができる。

【0106】また、本実施形態では、キャッチャイト部分を形成するために、画素がキャッチャイトのどの位置に対応するかに応じて個々の画素の明度を変化させるようにしているが、予めキャッチャイトパターンを形成してキャッチャイト位置に貼りつけるように構成することもできる。この場合も寸法の拡大縮小を自由に行うことができる。修正する赤目領域の画像寸法に対応させてキャッチャイトの寸法を定めることにより一団自然な雰囲気の補正画像とすることができる。もちろん明度についても同様で、自由に明度を設定できるようにすることでも一団自然な雰囲気の補正画像とできる。

【0107】図9に、赤目修正を施してキャッチャイトパターンを形成した画像の目尻を通る長手方向の線に沿った明度のグラフを示す。

【0108】なお、本実施形態では、同じ指定領域についてステップ102からステップ106までの処理を一回行うものとしているが、ステップ102からステップ106までの処理を複数回繰り返して行う設定とすることもでき、この場合、赤目領域の抽出をより一団自然な補正画像とすることができる。

【0109】なお、本発明は以上述べた構成に限らず、隣接する分割領域を選択して赤目評価を適用することもできる。例えば、本来の赤目部分が2分割されている場合、赤目部分がある領域を選択し1つの領域として認識することにより、円形領域の面積が増える。その結果、連結した領域の画素数が、個々の分割領域での画素数を上回る場合は、連結した領域を赤目領域と判定する。

【0110】なお、上記の、赤目抽出、赤目領域修正、キャッチャイト付加等の各処理は独立して実行可能であるため、各処理のそれぞれについて他の手法あるいはマニュアル処理に代換えた組み合わせにより赤目修正処理を行うこともできる。

【0111】また、抽出した赤目領域に正常な眼を拡大縮小して貼り付け修正処理を行ってもよい。この場合、目を貼り付けた後、さらに修正して全体の感じと合うようにするとよい。

【0112】

【発明の効果】以上説明したように、請求項1から請求項3の発明によれば、どのような補正画像であっても正確に

領域を分割して修正の必要のある領域だけを修正対象領域として選択できる、という効果を達成する。

【0113】また、請求項4及び請求項5の発明によれば、暗領域だけを正確に選択できる、という効果を達成する。

【0114】さらに、請求項6から請求項20の発明によれば、修正対象領域である暗領域を正確に修正できる、という効果を達成する。

【0115】また、請求項21の発明によれば、修正された画像を自然な雰囲気に仕上げることもできる、という効果を達成する。

【0116】また、請求項22の発明によれば、赤目補正処理を精度良く行うことができる、という効果を達成する。

【図面の簡単な説明】

【図1】本発明の実施の形態にかかるとデジタルシステムの概略構成図である。

【図2】デジタルシステムの構成図である。

【図3】画像処理部の制御ブロック図である。

【図4】赤目処理部220、222における赤目修正処理の流れを示すフロー図である。

【図5】目尻を通る長手方向の線に沿って算出した場合の特微量Cのグラフである。

【図6】特微量Cに基づいて山頂に分割した場合の説明図である。

【図7】(a)は、目尻を通る長手方向の線に沿った明度のグラフであり、(b)は、 $a=1, 3$ とした式(2)に基づいて、(a)における赤目領域の明度を修正した状態を示すグラフである。

【図8】キャッチャイト内の画素の位置と明度の調整係数との関係を示す図である。

【図9】赤目修正を施してキャッチャイトパターンを形成した画像の目尻を通る長手方向の線に沿った明度のグラフである。

【図10】(a)は目の正面領域であり、(b)は目尻を通る長手方向の線に沿って算出した特微量Aのグラフであり、(c)は目尻を通る長手方向の線に沿って算出した特微量Bのグラフである。

【図11】オペレータによる処理対象領域の指定方法の例を示す説明図である。

【図12】赤目処理の方法を説明する説明図であり、図12(A)は参照エリアを示し、図12(B)は選択した特微量Dのグラフを示している。

【図13】図13(A)は特微量Dの一部を示すグラフであり、図13(B)～図13(D)は番号割付手順を示す説明図である。

【図14】番号割付処理の方法を説明する説明図である。

【図15】図15(A)は、処理対象領域を示し、図15(B)は、図15(A)の領域に沿った領域の点数を

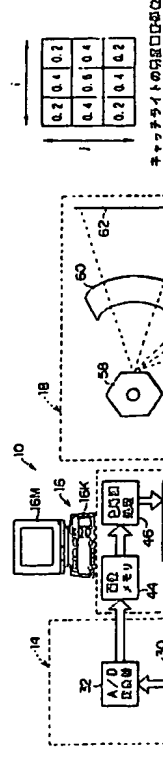
示すグラフである。

【図16】図16(A)は、6つの分割領域それぞれにつけた第1の点数と第2の点数を示した説明図であり、図16(B)は、6つの分割領域ごとのそれぞれの平均点数を示した説明図である。

【符号の説明】

10 デジタルシステム
14 ラインCCDカメラ
16 画像処理部
66 光源部
68 写真フィルム

【図1】

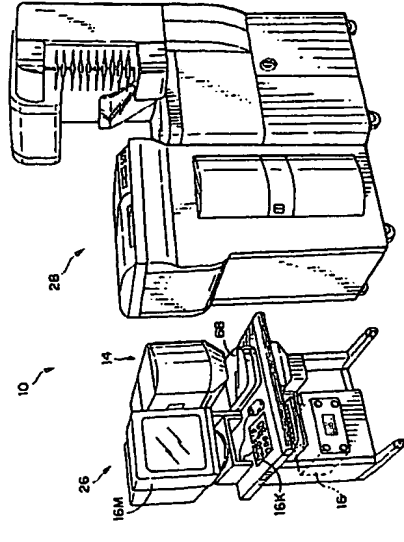


キャッチャイトの図面図

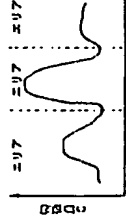
【図8】

0.2	0.4	0.2
0.4	0.6	0.4
0.2	0.4	0.2

【図2】



【図5】



【図6】

